(c) whether it is a fact that similar unintended benefit on Ranitidine, Cephalexin and several other formulations are being enjoyed by this company; and

(d) what steps have been taken to investigate the whole matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) There are companies other than M/s. Glaxo producing Betamethasone formulations.

(b) and (c) Incidentals are allowed in cases of ceiling packs as per established procedure of price-fixation.

(d) Does not arise.

Determination of liability for a company

1882. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3111 given in Rajya Sabha on 19th August, 1993 and state:

(a) whether there is any stay on determination of liability arising out of overcharging of prices in post-DPCO, 1979 period;

(b) whether it is a fact that liability has not been deliberately worked out for the last three years to doll out this company;

(c) what are the reasons for not determining the liability and whether it is a fact that the company has given agency and distributorship to the kin of bureaucrates to stall the determination of liability for the post DPCO 1979 period; and

(d) what is the name of the salt of Betamethasone that has been price decontrolled for the company and what were the specific basis for decontrolling its price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The company has been asked to furnish the details/data to the Government for working out the liability for the relevant period. No specific instance of giving of any agency and distributorship to the kin of any official of this Department has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) The name of the salt of bulk drug Betamethasone is Betamethasone Di-Sodium Phospate and the same has been exempted on the basis of R & D efforts undertaken by the company viz (i) improvement in the production efficiency (ii) reduction in the cost of production (iii) saving in Foreign Exchange, (iv) Production from basic stage.

Bulk drugs wrongly included under price control

1883. PROF. I. G. SANADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 329 given in Rajya Sabha dated on the 19th August, 1993 and state:

(a) the names of the bulk drugs which were wrongly included under price control as per the representations received by Government in the matter;

(b) the names of the drugs which were excluded from price control against the criteria of Kelkar Committee;

(c) the reasons for which these anomalies were not removed during the last three years and benefits were given to producers;

(d) whether it is a fact that even prices of price controlled drugs have not been complied with by the producers, if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed for maintaining the status quo ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e) Examination of the representations received and the related issues form part of the Review of the Drug Policy which has since been discussed in all its Retails on 18th, 19th and 23rd August, 1993 and finalisation of the decisions is at an advanced stage.

Wholesale Price Index of Bulk Drugs, Formulations and Medicines

1884. **PROF. I. G. SANADI**: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the wholesale price index of bulk drugs, formulations and medicines now and what was that in August, 1987;

(b) what are the medicines in the basket of wholesale price index;

(c) since when this basket is continuing and the reasons for which it has not been made representative by removing obsolete drugs like Quinine, Amodinquine etc.; and

(d) whether it is a fact that real index of price increases is not reflected by this basket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The wholesale Price Index of drugs and medicines (1981-82 = 100) in August 87 was 144.3, as against 251.2 (provisional) for the week ending 20-11-93.

(b) The list of names of drugs and medicines included in the basket in respect of the current series of the Wholesale Price Index numbers (1981-82 = 100) is given in the statement enclosed, (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The currently operated Wholesale Price Index Series With Base 1981-82 was compiled on the basis of the recommendation made by the Special Working Group set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, the then Dy. Governor, RBI. This working Group was constituted on the 1st April, 1982 and the current series was introduced w.e.f. July '89. A Working Group has been set up by the Ministry of Industry for revision of the current series of Wholesale Price Index Numbers.

Statement

The list of drugs & medicines :--

1. Vitamin tablets (A, B, C, D, & Others)
2. Vitamin capsules,
3. Vitamin liquids,
4. Chloramphenicol,
5. Penicillin,
6. Streptomycin,
7. Tetracycline,
8. Powders/Granules (Other than Vitamin),
9. Liquid Oral (Other than Vitamin),
10. Liquid injectable (Other than Vitamin),
11. Capsules (Other than Vitamin) & Antibiotics,
12. Tablets (except Vitamin & penicillin),
13. Ointments,
14. Syrup
15. Drugs & Pharmaceuticals n. e. c., and
16. Ayurvedic Medicines

Misuse of the Discount and Promotional Expenses Provisions by Drug Companies

1885. **SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA**: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that promotional expenses and discount are the areas misused by the drug companies to defraud the consumers;

(b) the reasons for which watch on promotional expenses and discounts is not kept when it is obligatory to keep a watch on profits;

(c) whether it is a fact that watch on profits cannot be kept without keeping a watch on promotional expenses and discounts;